

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 8, 10 – 16, 20 – 25, 27, 28, 31 and 32 are pending for consideration in the present application. Claims 9, 17 – 19, 26, 29 and 30 are canceled. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1 – 8, 10 – 16, 20 – 25, 27, 28, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 29706969 U1. Claim 1 and 8 are independent claims. Applicants are clarifying an aspect of each of independent claims 1 and 8 that is neither disclosed nor suggested by DE 29706969 U1.

Claim 1 provides for a method that includes:

connecting a configuration device to a coupling location of an intelligent unit in a system, ...
wherein the configuration device remains at the coupling location and remains connected to the coupling location even if the intelligent unit is replaced.

The above-emphasized feature is described in the specification as filed, at page 9, lines 23 – 26 and at page 11 lines 1-6 (and in publication US 2006/0142876 A1, paragraphs 0035 and 0042 respectively).

DE 29706969 U1 is a German-language document. On 26 FEB 2010, Applicants submitted an information disclosure statement with which Applicants provided an English translation of DE 29706969 U1 (hereinafter “English translation”).

DE 29706969 U1 describes an apparatus for saving system configuration data for the purpose of prevention of the loss of data if a concerning electronic system is to be replaced (English translation, page 1, lines 5 – 9). A control unit 1 has an effect on an electrical actuator 10 that drives an automatic door 11 of an elevator (English translation, page 4, lines 3 – 6). A plug-in module 5 includes a memory module for storage of system configuration data (English translation, page 2, lines 12 – 15; page 3, lines 25 – 36). If control unit 1 is replaced, plug-in module 5 is removed (English translation, page 2,

lines 17-24). Thus, in DE 29706969 01 U1, during replacement of control unit 1, plug-in module 5 does not remain at a coupling location and connected to the coupling location. As such, the removed plug-in module 5 can be possibly mixed up, by mistake, with another plug-in module belonging to another control unit and/or storing other configuration data. DE 29706969 U1 neither discloses nor suggests that the configuration device **remains at the coupling location and remains connected to the coupling location** even if the intelligent unit is replaced, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by DE 29706969 U1.

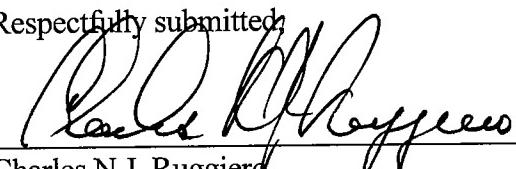
Claim 8 includes a recital similar to that of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 8, for reasoning similar to that of claim 1, is also not anticipated by DE 29706969 U1.

Claims 2 – 7 and 31 depend from claim 1. Claims 10 – 16, 20 – 25, 27, 28 and 32 depend from claim 8. By virtue of these dependencies, claims 2 – 7, 10 – 16, 20 – 25, 27, 28, 31 and 32 are also novel over DE 29706969 U1.

Applicants are requesting reconsideration and a withdrawal of the section 102(b) rejection of claims 1 – 8, 10 – 16, 19 – 25 and 27 – 32.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims presented in this application patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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